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The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Identical letters dated 8 September 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

At 1820 hours on Tuesday, 4 September 2018, in yet another blatant violation of the 1974 Agreement on Disengagement, the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant rules of international law, the Israeli occupation forces carried out a dangerous act of provocation against the Syrian Arab Republic by attacking two Syrian military positions in the areas of Masyaf and Baniyas, in western Syria. Four war planes violated Lebanese airspace, coming from the sea opposite the Lebanese city of Tripoli. They launched missiles at the aforementioned Syrian positions, killing one person, wounding 12 others and causing material damage to the positions.

The Syrian Arab Republic draws the attention of the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council to the dangerousness of Israel's blatant attack on the stability of the region and on international peace and security. It also wishes to recall paragraph A of the 1974 Agreement on Disengagement, which stipulates that Israel and Syria will scrupulously observe the cease-fire on land, sea and air and will refrain from all military actions against each other, from the time of the signing of the document, in implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 338 (1973) dated 22 October 1973.

In the recent period, Israel has regularly and systematically ignored or violated its obligations under the Agreement. In view of that conduct, the United Nations and, in particular, the Security Council must condemn the attacks and make appropriate efforts to ensure that they do not recur.

The Syrian Arab Republic also wishes to highlight the timing of the attack: it provides moral support to the terrorist organizations, which have suffered repeated defeats in their confrontations with the Syrian Arab Army. This underscores the

organizations' close relationship with Israel, which has become unequivocally clear during the years of the crisis in Syria, especially in the area of separation and on either side of the ceasefire line between the two sides in recent times. The Syrian Arab Republic emphasizes that these attacks will not affect its unwavering determination to continue the war against the armed terrorist organizations, including the Israeli-associated Nusrah Front, until Syrian soil has been completely and definitively cleansed of their remnants.

Once again, the Syrian Arab Republic calls on the Security Council to implement and comprehensively enforce its resolutions, particularly resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 497 (1981), which require Israel to withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, including the occupied Syrian Golan, to the lines of 4 June 1967, and also to refrain from all forms of aggression or endeavours to increase tension or conflict in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 37 and 54, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Permanent Representative
Ambassador